
APPENDIX J. YOUNG ADULT SURVEY
CONTENT BY SURVEY YEAR

Appendix J. NLSY79 Young Adult: Survey Content 1994-2000

Variable	94	96	98	00
I. LABOR MARKET EXPERIENCE VARIABLES				
A. Current labor force and employment status				
Survey week labor force and employment status	*	*	*	
Hours worked in survey week	*	*	*	
Hours per week usually worked	*	*	*	
Job search activities	*	*	*	
B. Work experience since January 1 of previous year through 1998/date of last interview in 2000				
Weeks worked	*	*	*	*
Hours usually worked per week	*	*	*	*
Number of weeks unemployed, out of labor force	*	*	*	
Spells of unemployment	*	*	*	*
Characteristics of last job lasting 2 weeks or more and first significant job after leaving high school	*	*	*	*
C. Characteristics of jobs (more than 10 hrs/week, more than 9 weeks in duration) since January 1 of previous year through 1998/date of last interview in 2000				
Occupation and industry (Census code)	*	*	*	*
Class of worker	*	*	*	*
Start date/stop date	*	*	*	*
Hours per week usually worked	*	*	*	*
Shift worked	*	*	*	
Rate of pay	*	*	*	*
Hourly rate of pay	*	*	*	*
Commuting time to job, method of transportation	*	*	*	
Covered by collective bargaining	*	*	*	
Is R union member	*	*	*	
Availability of fringe benefits (CPS job only in 2000)	*	*	*	*
Global job satisfaction item	*	*	*	*
Size of employer	*	*	*	
Reason for leaving job	*	*	*	
Promotion and promotion potential with employer	*	*	*	
II. HUMAN CAPITAL AND OTHER SOCIOECONOMIC VARIABLES				
A. Early formative influences				
Date of birth	*	*	*	*
Ethnic self-identification	*	*	*	*
Times R has lived away from mother	*	*	*	*
Father's employment status, occupation, highest grade completed, ethnicity	*	*	*	*
Contact with nonresidential parent(s)	*	*	*	*
Contact with sibling R feels closest to				*
Current religion, religious attendance, importance of religion	*	*	*	*
B. Education				
Current enrollment status, grade	*	*	*	*
Reason stopped attending school	*	*	*	*
Date of last enrollment	*	*	*	*
Periods of nonattendance, grades when occurred, reason why	*	*	*	*

Variable	94	96	98	00
Grades repeated or skipped	*	*	*	*
Highest grade attended, highest grade completed	*	*	*	*
GED or diploma received, date received	*	*	*	*
Is/was school public/private/religious	*	*	*	*
High school curriculum	*	*	*	*
Time spent on homework in school, out of school		*	*	*
Style of teaching in English classes		*	*	*
Parent involvement with R's schooling (19 items in 1996–98, 17 items in 2000)		*	*	*
Job/career counseling received in high school	*	*	*	*
Characteristics of R's school (9 items)	*	*	*	*
Level of satisfaction with school	*	*	*	*
Number of high schools attended	*	*	*	*
Date of college enrollment	*	*	*	*
College degree received, date received (in 2000)	*	*	*	*
Type of college attending (2/4yr)	*	*	*	
Field of study/specialization in college	*	*	*	*
College tuition	*	*	*	*
Educational loans/financial aid in college	*	*	*	*
Other means of paying college expenses	*	*	*	*
Highest grade R would like/expects to complete	*	*	*	*
Highest grade R's best friend would like to complete	*	*	*	
C. Vocational training outside regular school (most recent program only in 2000)				
Type(s) of training	*	*	*	*
Services provided by training program	*	*	*	*
Duration of training programs	*	*	*	*
Was training completed	*	*	*	*
Hours per week usually spent in training	*	*	*	*
Was training related to specific job or employer, related to a promotion	*	*	*	
Method of financing training	*	*	*	*
Does R have certificate or journeyman's card	*	*	*	*
D. Physical and mental health				
Does health limit work/school	*	*	*	*
Type and duration of health limitation	*	*	*	*
Recent accidents, injuries, illnesses, hospitalization	*	*	*	*
Height, weight	*	*	*	*
Right/left handedness		*	*	
Menstrual period information	*	*	*	*
Health insurance coverage for R, children	*	*	*	*
CES-Depression Scale (7 items)	*	*	*	*
E. Relationship history and household characteristics				
Number, ages, and demographic characteristics of all household residents (only age and relationship in 2000)	*	*	*	*
Number of close friends of each sex, their ages relative to R's age				*
Month and year or age at first date	*	*	*	*

Appendix J. Young Adult Survey Content by Survey Year

Variable	94	96	98	00
Number of people R has dated in the past 12 months	*	*	*	*
How often R usually has a date	*	*	*	*
Marital status	*	*	*	*
Unmarried R's: status of current relationship	*	*	*	*
Has R ever (since last interview) lived with someone R was not married to	*	*	*	*
Month/year or age of spouse/partner when R and spouse/partner began living together	*	*	*	*
Current spouses/partner characteristics: ethnicity, religion, education, employment, income	*	*	*	*
Relationship history: characteristics of previous spouses/partners	*	*	*	*
Relationship quality: happiness rating, positive activities series, topics of arguments series	*	*	*	*
Relationship plans, expectations	*	*	*	*
Fertility history	*	*	*	*
Use of various birth control methods	*	*	*	*
Prenatal care (females)	*	*	*	*
Health care and nutrition during pregnancy (females)	*	*	*	
Cigarette and alcohol use during pregnancy (females)	*	*	*	*
Drug use during pregnancy (females)	*	*	*	
Postnatal infant care (females)	*	*	*	*
Expected number of children	*	*	*	*
R's opinions/beliefs about parenting; actual parenting behaviors				*
F. Financial characteristics and program participation				
Income of R/spouse from farm or own business	*	*	*	*
Income of R/spouse from wages or salary (military income included in 2000)	*	*	*	*
Income of R/spouse from unemployment compensation	*	*	*	*
Income of R/spouse from public assistance	*	*	*	*
Income of R/spouse from food stamps	*	*	*	*
Income of R/spouse from Social Security, other sources	*	*	*	*
Income of R/spouse from military service	*	*	*	
Income of R/spouse from child support	*	*	*	*
Child support expected vs. received	*	*	*	*
Income of R/spouse from other sources	*	*	*	*
Possession of various assets (R/spouse)	*	*	*	*
Asset market values (R/spouse)	*	*	*	
Household income				*
Financial strain				*
Amount of debts	*	*	*	*
G. Military service (current or past)				
Branch of Armed Forces	*	*	*	*
Months spent in Armed Forces	*	*	*	*
Military occupation(s)	*	*	*	*
Participation in VEAP or GI bill	*	*	*	*
Type/amount of military training	*	*	*	*
Formal education received while in service	*	*	*	*
H. Attitudes toward work and self				
Knowledge of World of Work	*	*	*	

Appendix J. Young Adult Survey Content by Survey Year

Variable	94	96	98	00
Characteristics of job R is willing to take (R's unemployed or out of labor force)	*	*	*	
Reaction to hypothetical job offers	*	*	*	
Pearlin Mastery Scale (7 items)	*	*	*	*
Self-Esteem Scale (Rosenberg) (10 items)	*	*	*	*
Attitude toward women working	*	*	*	
I. Child care (youngest child in household in 2000)				
Child care arrangements in last month	*	*	*	*
Cost per week	*	*	*	*
Number of hours per week	*	*	*	*
Did child care problems force R to turn down job offer or to lose work	*	*	*	*
J. Looking for work				
R looking for work or employed when found current/most recent job	*	*	*	
Methods of job search used	*	*	*	
Job offers rejected (while looking for each job)	*	*	*	
Desired characteristics of job sought	*	*	*	
III. ATTITUDES AND BEHAVIORS (located in self-report booklet through 1998)				
A. Computer use				
Does R have a computer at home/have access to one elsewhere	*	*	*	*
What R uses computer for most often	*	*	*	
Has R ever used computer at school/college, at work	*	*		
How R has learned about computers	*	*	*	
Has R ever had a class/training on computer, programming, or word processing	*	*	*	
How often R uses computer for various activities	*	*	*	*
B. Substance use				
Extent, frequency of R's alcohol use; age first used	*	*	*	*
Where/with whom was first drink	*	*		
Alcohol abuse behavior in past year series (had an argument, missed school/work, drove a car, etc.)	*	*	*	*
Does R usually drink beer, wine, or liquor	*	*	*	
Where/with whom R usually drinks	*	*	*	
R's perception of how many drink at least sometimes (series): students in R's grade, people R's age R hangs out with, people R's age in R's neighborhood	*	*	*	*
Extent, frequency of cigarette use; age first used	*	*	*	*
Extent, frequency of marijuana use; various details	*	*	*	*
Extent, frequency of amphetamine use				*
Extent, frequency of use of substances (glue, gas, sprays, fluids) that are "sniffed/huffed"	*	*	*	*
Extent, frequency of cocaine use	*	*	*	*
Extent, frequency of "crack" use	*	*	*	*
Age first used each drug	*	*	*	
Extent, frequency of use of other drugs (LSD, uppers, downers); age first used	*	*		
Frequency of use of hallucinogens (LSD, PCP, peyote, mescaline)			*	*
Frequency of use of sedatives/downers (barbiturates, sleeping pills)			*	*
Frequency of use of other drugs (stimulants, heroin, steroids, MDMA/"Ecstasy", crystal meth./"Ice")				*
While high, has R ever: hurt self or someone else; stayed home from school/work, gone late to school/work; driven a car	*	*	*	

Appendix J. Young Adult Survey Content by Survey Year

Variable	94	96	98	00
Due to drug use, have R's grades suffered; has R ever hurt chances for a raise/better job	*	*	*	
Has R ever taken sedatives, tranquilizers, stimulants, painkillers, steroids, heroin, hallucinogens, or injection of any drug without doctor's orders	*	*	*	
C. Attitudes/expectations				
Risk-taking behaviors and attitudes (six items)	*	*	*	*
Best age for R to marry; youngest age R can imagine getting married	*	*	*	
Best age/youngest age R can imagine to have first child	*	*	*	
Aspirations for future (marriage, fertility, employment, relationships)	*	*	*	*
D. Sex education/sexual intercourse				
Any courses/time in class spent on sex education	*	*	*	*
Grade R first had this course	*	*	*	*
Who in family R talks to about sex	*	*	*	
Ever had sexual intercourse; age at first intercourse	*	*	*	*
Number of partners in last 12 months	*	*	*	*
When last sexual intercourse occurred	*	*	*	*
During last sexual intercourse, did R and partner use birth control, which methods	*	*	*	*
Relationship with and characteristics of partner at last intercourse			*	*
Has R ever been pregnant, number of times	*	*	*	*
Month/year R got pregnant the first time, R's age	*	*	*	*
In the month before the last time R got pregnant, did R/partner use birth control, which methods	*	*	*	*
Did R/partner use a birth control method on every occasion of sexual intercourse that month	*	*	*	
R ever had an abortion, number	*	*	*	
Month/year of R's first abortion, R's age	*	*	*	
E. Home and neighborhood environment				
Does R live with biological father or stepfather	*	*	*	*
Do biological parents (and mother and stepfather, if applicable) get along, agree about rules, argue	*	*	*	*
Does R feel caught in the middle; can R talk about each parent in front of the other	*	*	*	*
Extent of neighborhood problems (series) (respect for laws, crime/violence, unemployment, etc.)	*	*	*	*
Number of times R has run away from home	*	*	*	*
R's age the first time R ran away	*	*	*	*
F. Criminal activities				
Crimes/delinquent activities R has committed in the last year (got in a fight, stole something, etc.)	*	*	*	*
Has R ever been convicted for any charges except a minor traffic violation, R's age	*	*	*	*
Number of times R has been convicted of something	*	*	*	*
Date of most recent conviction	*	*	*	
Charges of which R was convicted (assault, robbery, theft, etc.)	*	*	*	*
Has R ever been convicted for charges in adult court	*	*	*	
Has R been on probation ever/since last interview	*	*	*	*
When R's (most recent) probation period ended	*	*	*	
Has R ever been sentenced to spend time in a youth or adult corrections institution	*	*	*	*
Most recent release from corrections facility	*	*	*	
Number of times R has been referred to a court-related counseling or diversion program by police, courts, school, or own parents; age first time	*	*	*	
When (most recent) counseling program ended	*	*	*	

Appendix J. Young Adult Survey Content by Survey Year

Variable	94	96	98	00
G. Volunteer activities				
Volunteer work performed in last two years/since last interview	*	*	*	*
Was any of the volunteer work: court ordered, church- or school-sponsored, other	*	*	*	*
Types of organizations R is/was involved with (for example, service, church, youth)	*	*	*	*
H. Mental health				
Has R received any help for an emotional, behavioral, or family problem in the last 12 months	*	*	*	*
Type of problem(s)	*	*	*	*
Has R felt/has anyone suggested that R needed help for any behavioral, emotional, or mental problem in the past 12 months?	*	*	*	
Does R regularly take any medicine or prescription drugs to help control activity level or behavior	*	*	*	*